

just about the same as
anything else:
all we need is what we want and
what we want
has very little to do
with anything
else.

I'M A FAILURE

I locked my car door
and looked up and this
guy walked up
he looked like my old
friend Peter
but he wasn't Peter
he was this gaunt gringo
in blue workshirt and jeans
and he said,
"hey, man, my wife and I
need something to eat, we
want to go to a Kentucky Fried
Chicken, o.k.?"
I looked over on the sidewalk
and here was his fat Mexican
woman
and she stared at me
her eyes near
tears.
I gave him a five.
"I love you, man!" he
hollered, "I'm not going to
spend it for drink."
"why not?" I answered,
"I would...."

I went into a building
took care of some business
came out
got into my car
as always
contemplating about
whether I had given
properly
or been taken
properly.

as I drove off
I remembered my years on the
bum
starved damn near beyond repair
I had never asked for a
dime.

that night after some drinks
 I explained to the lady I lived with
 how so often I gave money to panhandlers
 but I myself
 in the darkest hungriest time of
 madness had
 never asked for
 anything.

"you just didn't know how to do
 things," she answered.

— Charles Bukowski

San Pedro CA

PRESS NOTES::

Important anthology of 60 young L.A. poets, truth and lies
 that press for life (edit. C. Hershey), \$12.95 fm. Artifact
Press, 900 Tanglewood Dr., Concord MA 01742. ¶ Tod Moore's
21-volume Dillinger is now being published by Primal Pub-
lishing, 107 Brighton Ave., Allston MA 02134.

MODERN CLASSICS::

Sherman Alexie's the Business of Fancydancing (\$10) fm.
Hanging Loose, 231 Wyckoff St., Brooklyn NY 11217. ¶ Kurt
Nimmo's Stories From The Single Life (\$4) and Notes On A
Condition (\$2) fm. Persona Non Grata Books, 46000 Geddes
 Rd. (#86), Canton MI 48188; also his Catholic Girls (un-
 priced) fm. Translucent Tendency Press, 3226 Raspberry,
 Erie PA 16508. ¶ William Heyen's Pterodactyl Rose (\$10)
 fm. Time Being Books, 10411 Clayton Rd. (#208), St. Louis
 MO 63131. ¶ Cliff Dweller's Mapping The Asphalt Meadows
 (\$4) fm. Slipstream, Box 2071 New Market Station, Niagara
Falls NY 14301.

VERY HIGHLY RECOMMENDED::

Gerald Locklin's A Yank At Bangor: Poems From The Welsh
Teaching Experience (\$5) fm. Vergin Press, 10708 Gay
 Brewer Dr., El Paso TX 79935. ¶ Norbert Blei's Chronicl-
es Of A Rural Journalist In America (\$11.95) fm. Samizdat
Press, P.O. Box 198, Sister Bay WI 54234. ¶ Billy Jones'
Cup Full Of River (unpriced) fm. Makar Press, P.O. Box 71,
St. Lucia, Queensland 4067, Australia. ¶ Lynne Walker's
Big Red Burns (\$7) fm. Bloody Twin Press, 253C Rte. 1,
Bluecreek OH 45616. ¶ Mark Weber's Dig & Be Dug (\$3) fm.
Iniquity Press, P.O. Box 1698, New Brunswick NJ 08901. and
 his Salt Lake (\$1.75) fm. Vergin Press, P.O. Box 370322,
El Paso TX 79937. ¶ Sarkis Simonian's motel modern (\$3)
 fm. Look Quick, P.O. Box 222, Pueblo CO 81002. ¶ Sandy
McIntosh's Endless Staircase (\$5.75) fm. Street Press,
P.O. Box 772, Sound Beach NY 11789. ¶ Continued in WR:127.